

# ***Best Practices for Winning Games with English Language (EL) Students***



# Introductions

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# English Learners in Wyoming

- There are about 820 ELs (17%)
- There are about 89 former ELs
- Top commonly spoken languages: Spanish (89%) and Vietnamese, but we have 18 different languages among our EL's

# Changes and Challenges

- Participation (lack of or consistency)
- Equal Access Resources
- Transiency
- Adult Language/cultural barriers
- Poverty challenges, including economic impact on family, work vs. school
- Community Bias
- Immigrant and Adjudicated Youth
- Newcomers, limited, interrupted or no schooling
- Growth Patterns
- Graduation

# Current Data Analysis (and conclusions)

- WIDA
  - What the Scores mean and provide (versus previous with ELPA)
  - Accuracy and predictability
- MEAP/MME
- SRI
- Graduation Rate

# District Initiatives/Strategies:

- Aquinas College Partnership
- ToTs and PD roll-outs in collaboration with ISDs, OEII, BAA, CAL (center for applied linguistics) offered by OFS for SIOP, BEW, WIDA, “what’s different”, etc.
- Building local capacity in EL teacher/para staff quality
- District EL Coordinator/Specialist
- Bilingual Support Staff (office+)
- Thinking Maps/Write Thinking



# Elementary Past Efforts

## Achievement Data

## Program Delivery

- Pull out, EL Teacher Support
- Para educator Classroom Support

## Examples

- EL teachers and support personnel serviced 100% of level 1's and 2's daily
- Classroom teachers and supplemental personnel (Title I and 31a) directly serviced level 3's and 4's,



# Elementary Present Efforts

## Achievement Data (Progress Monitoring and Evaluation)

## Program Delivery (Major Reforms)

- In classroom push-in , all staff trained and supportive
- Specialized training and support by highly qualified EL Staff
- Classroom teachers, ELL certified program (w/Aquinas)
- Coordination w/RTI model includes all support staff (targeted interventions)





# Elementary Present Efforts

## Examples

- Clearly articulated content standards with accompanying formative and summative assessments that drive individual support efforts
- RTI Tier level (I, II, or III) and ELPA results determine individualized plan of improvement/focus and delivery model (whom, time allocation, etc.)
- Extended day and summer programming with EL and other support staff extends literacy opportunities, English language acquisition
- SIOP district-wide initiative for integrating practices into each and every classroom and content area
- Thinking MAPs/Writing initiative for all staff



# Elementary Future Efforts

## Possibilities

- Intense, personalized technology integration availability
- Extended Teacher Consultant Model

## Challenges

- Equal Access to resources (incl. technology), Poverty
- Language and Cultural Competencies (multiple backgrounds)
- Parent and Family Involvement, Skill level improvement
- Early intervention, PreK-2 to literacy and programming



# Secondary Past Efforts

## Achievement Data

## Program Delivery

- Team teaching, highly qualified and EL support (core content area)
- Self-contained literacy program for level I and II
- SOS (strengthening of skills) classes



# Secondary Present Efforts

## Achievement Data

## Program Delivery/Examples

- Newcomers Block (7-12 gr.)
- HQ content teachers w/EL certification
- Extended Day and Summer Programs
- Daily Extension/Intervention period w/EL Staff
- Block content classes (extended time)
- Student Interventionist/Advocate
- Intentional Scheduling



# Secondary Future Efforts

## Possibilities

- Transition of Services, Adult Education/GED
- Total Mainstreaming (w/HQ staff) with additional support
- Interventions built into the school day (greater participation) in addition to outside extended day/year interventions



# Parent Connections/Efforts

- Greater promotion/use of Adult Education
- Immigration Grant Protocol Program including acculturation
- EL focused Building and District level parent/family evening programming
- Bilingual secretaries at district and site levels
- Student Advocates

# Let's Discuss!

## Questions? We're here to help!



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